Auction of 3G spectrum

2312. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that domestic and foreign telecom companies have not shown much interest in the auction of 3-G spectrum;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any changes are to be effected in the auction process for 3-G spectrum; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) No, Sir. Both domestic as well as foreign companies participated in the pre-bid conference held on 16th November, 2009.

The eligibility criteria for telecom companies to participate in the 3G auction are.

Any entity (i) that holds a UAS/Cellular Mobile Telephone Service ("CMTS") licence or (ii) that has previous experience of running 3G telecom services either directly or through a majority-owned subsidiary and gives and undertaking to obtain a UAS licence through a New Entrant Nominee UAS License as per the DoT guidelines before starting telecom operations can bid for 3G Spectrum.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) No, Sir. As per the 3G spectrum guidelines issued on 1st August, 2008 and with certain amendments on 11th September, 2008 controlled, simultaneous, ascending e-auction shall be conducted for allotment of the 3G spectrum.

(d) Does not arise.

Rural public phones

†2313. SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a target had been fixed to provide 66,822 rural public phones during the period of 2005 to 2009, whereas only 54,700 phones have been provided;

(b) the names of States provided with these phones, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is proposed to make this scheme more comprehensive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) and (b) Agreement was signed with M/S BSNL In November, 2004 for provision of Village Public Telephone (VPTs) in 66,822 uncovered villages in the country as per Census 1991 with subsidy

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

support from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) as a part of the activities under Bharat Nirman Programme. The number of VPTs is being revised to 62,302 as provision of VPTs in some of the villages is not feasible due to difficult terrain, non-traceability and submerging of villages.

Out of 62,302 VPTs 60,208 VPTs (96.64%) have been provided as on 31.10.2009. The service area-wise details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) Yes, Sir. All the remaining inhabited villages have been included for provision of VPTs with subsidy support from USOF.

Statement

Status of VPTs provided under Bharat Nirman Programme as on 31.10.2009

Sl. No.	Name of the Service Area	No. of villages to be covered under Bharat Nirman	No. of villages to be covered (under revision)	VPTs provided as on 31.10.2009
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1074	675	675
3.	Assam	8931	8775	8775
4.	Bihar	0	0	0
5.	Jharkhand	1694	1564	1564
6.	Gujarat	4144	4097	4097
7.	Haryana	0	0	0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1002	1000	1000
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1755	1753	1506
10.	Karnataka	0	0	0
11.	Kerala	0	0	0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	11894	11854	11854
13.	Chhattisgarh	5043	3809	3474
14.	Maharashtra	6441	6275	6264
15.	North East-1	2128	1672	893
15	A. Meghalaya (NE-I)	1957	1504	735

1	2	3	4	5
15	B. Mizoram (NE-I)	96	93	83
15	C. Tripura (NE-I)	75	75	75
16.	North East-II	1550	1535	1313
16	A. Arunachal Pradesh (NE-II)	646	646	585
16	B. Manipur (NE-II)	876	861	700
16	C. Nagaland (NE-II)	28	28	28
17.	Orissa	4899	4122	3907
18.	Punjab	0	0	0
19.	Rajasthan	12386	11924	11912
20.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0
21.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	0	0	0
22.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	0	0	0
23.	Uttarakhand	3881	3547	2974
24.	West Bengal	0	0	0
	TOTAL:	66822	62302	60208

Impact of global recession on IT sector

†2314. SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the impact of the global recession on the IT sector;

(b) whether people associated with this sector also lost their jobs due to this recession; and

(c) if so, the number of people who lost their jobs due to this recession?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) The Indian IT and ITES sector has witnessed some slow down in comparison to its historical rate of growth. The growth rate of the IT and ITES exports during 2008-09 has declined to 14.6% as compared to around 30% in the last few years. The total export revenue of this sector is estimated at US $ 46.3 billion in 2008-09, as compared to US $ 40.4 billion in 2007-08. The revenue from the domestic market has grown from US $ 4.8 billion in 2004-05 to US $ 12.4 billion in 2008-09, a CAGR of 26.69%. However, the growth rate of domestic market has dipped to around 6% in 2008-09.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.